

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

Claims 1-138 (canceled).

139. (new) A toner container comprising:

an air filter window in one of a bottom and a wall of said toner container,

wherein when said toner container is packed with toner to a packing density determined by dividing a weight (g) of the toner by a capacity (cm^3) of said toner container, said packing density is 0.7 g/cm^3 or less.

140. (new) The toner container of claim 139, wherein said toner container is deformable in accordance with air pressure to thereby vary a capacity of the toner container.

141. (new) The toner container of claim 139, further comprising a toner outlet through which toner is discharged from said toner container.

142. (new) The toner container of claim 141, further comprising a mating portion for allowing said toner outlet to mate with a toner delivery means of an image forming apparatus and to remain in a mating position with said toner delivery means, wherein said mating portion forms

a sealing enclosure between the toner outlet and the toner delivery means.

143. (new) The toner container of claim 142, wherein dispensing of the toner from said toner container through said toner outlet into the toner delivery means is controlled by supply of a stream of air by an air blowing system into the toner container through an air inlet portion.

144. (new) The toner container of claim 143, wherein the toner is driven out of said toner container through said toner outlet by the stream of air.

145. (new) The toner container of claim 142, wherein said mating portion includes an elastic member, and said elastic member forms a hermetically closed seal between said toner outlet and said toner delivery means.

146. (new) The toner container of claim 142, wherein said toner outlet comprises a tubular body including a connecting portion for connecting said toner outlet to an opening formed in said toner container and said mating portion.

147. (new) The toner container of claim 146, wherein said toner outlet is sealed by an elastic member sized to cover an inside of a section of said tubular body.

148. (new) The toner container of claim 141, further comprising a bottom and a side

wall connecting said bottom and said toner outlet and including a tapered structure having a decreasing cross section in a direction toward said toner outlet.

149. (new) The toner container of claim 148, wherein a surface of said side wall forming said tapered structure is inclined relative to a section of said tubular body by an angle of about 45 degrees to about 90 degrees.

150. (new) The toner container of claim 148, wherein said toner container has at least four sides, wherein at least one of said at least four sides forms said side wall which is inclined relative to a section of said tubular body by less than 90 degrees.

151. (new) The toner container of claim 139, wherein when said toner container is mounted to an image forming apparatus, a mouth of said toner container faces a downward direction.

152. (new) The toner container of claim 141, wherein when said toner container is mounted to an image forming apparatus, said toner outlet is at a lower end of the toner container, and the toner is drawn out from the toner container through the toner outlet, at least in part by gravitational force.

153. (new) The toner container as claimed in claim 139, wherein said toner is stored in

said toner container.

154. (new) A toner container comprising:
a sack formed of a flexible material; and
a toner outlet through which toner can be discharged from said sack,
wherein when said sack is packed with toner to a packing density determined by dividing
a weight (g) of the toner by a capacity (cm^3) of said toner container, said packing density is 0.7 g/cm^3 or less.

155. (new) The toner container of claim 154, wherein said sack is deformable in
accordance with air pressure to thereby vary a capacity of the sack.

156. (new) The toner container of claim 154, further comprising position preserving
means for preserving a position of said sack.

157. (new) The toner container of claim 156, wherein said position preserving means
comprises a box-like member surrounding an entire periphery of said sack.

158. (new) The toner container of claim 155, further comprising a mating portion for
allowing said toner outlet to mate with a toner delivery means of an image forming apparatus and
to remain in a mating position with said toner delivery means, wherein said mating portion forms

a hermetically closed seal of said toner outlet.

159. (new) The toner container of claim 158, wherein dispensing of the toner from said toner container through said toner outlet into the toner delivery means is controlled by an automatic shutter mechanism.

160. (new) The toner container of claim 158, wherein dispensing of the toner from said toner container through said toner outlet into the toner delivery means is controlled by supply of a stream of air into the toner container by an air blowing system through an air inlet portion.

161. (new) The toner container as claimed in claim 154, wherein said toner outlet is provided with a fitting portion which is fitted in said sack.

162. (new) The toner container as claimed in claim 161, wherein said fitting portion of said toner outlet has a ship-like cross section.

163. (new) The toner container of claim 154, wherein said toner outlet is provided with a flange which is disposed between said fitting portion and said toner outlet.

164. (new) The toner container of claim 154, wherein said toner is stored in said toner container.